

Appl. No. 10/780,935
Amdt. dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 28, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Previously Presented)** A rollable mulch carpet comprising consisting of:

a base material made from a non-biodegradable, generally flexible and porous rubber material, the base material having a lower ground engaging surface and an upper surface; and

an artificial mulch-like material having the general appearance of natural wood mulch, the artificial mulch-like material being made from shredded rubber tires ~~substantially the same material as said base material~~ and being bonded to the upper surface of the base material only along a lower portion of the artificial mulch-like material such that an upper portion of the artificial mulch-like material is exposed; said artificial mulch-like material substantially covering the upper surface of the base material; said mulch-like material being bonded to the upper surface of the base material by chemical or heat without the use of glue.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Canceled)**

Appl. No. 10/780,935
Amdt. dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 28, 2005

4. **(Previously Presented)** The process of Claim 20 wherein the step of adhering the mulch-like material to the base material comprises using an adhesive which is generally waterproof.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 1 wherein the mulch-like material and the base material are made substantially from the same rubber or plastic material.

6. **(Canceled)**

7. **(Canceled)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** The rollable mulch carpet of ~~Claim 7 wherein~~ Claim 1 wherein the rollable mulch carpet is flexible enough to be stored, transported, or installed in a rolled up configuration.

9. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 8 wherein the mulch-like material is generally weather resistant.

10. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 9 wherein the rollable mulch carpet is manufactured in generally rectangular sections of about 3 feet in width and about 10 feet in length.

11. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 10 wherein the base material includes a plurality of openings of not greater than about 0.0625 square inches.

12. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 11 wherein the base material and the mulch-like material are resistant to damage by insects.

Appl. No. 10/780,935
Amdt. dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 28, 2005

13. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of Claim 1 wherein the mulch-like material is adhered to the base material in a single layer that substantially covers the upper surface of the base material.

14. **(Original)** The rollable mulch carpet of claim 13 wherein the single layer of mulch-like material has a thickness of about 0.5 inch or less.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A process of manufacturing a rollable mulch carpet ~~comprising~~ consisting of the steps of:

providing a rubber base material that is generally flexible and substantially porous and having an upper surface;

providing a mulch-like material from a weather resistant material made from that ~~is one of either shredded rubber tires or plastic and which is made of substantially the same material as the base material~~ having the appearance of natural wood mulch; and

bonding the mulch-like material to the upper surface of the base material only along a lower portion of the mulch-like material such that an upper portion of the mulch-like material is exposed; said mulch-like material being bonded to said base material in a single layer and without the use of glue.

16. **(Original)** The process of Claim 15 further comprising the step of manufacturing the rollable mulch carpet in generally rectangular sections.

Appl. No. 10/780,935
Amdt. dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 28, 2005

17. **(Original)** The process of Claim 16 further comprising the step of manufacturing the rollable carpet mulch in a generally rectangular section having a width of about 3 feet and a length of about 10 feet.

18. **(Previously Presented)** The process of Claim 15 wherein the step of bonding the mulch-like material to the base material is performed either by the application of heat or by chemically bonding the mulch material to the base material.

19. **(Original)** The process of Claim 15 wherein the rollable mulch carpet has a thickness of about 0.5 inch or less.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A process of manufacturing a rollable mulch carpet ~~comprising~~ consisting of the steps of:

providing a rubber base material that is generally flexible, substantially porous and has an upper surface;

applying a layer of adhesive over the base material upper surface; and

placing a layer of mulch-like material over the adhesive to adhere the mulch-like material to the base material such that an upper portion of the mulch-like material is exposed; the mulch-like material being made from ~~a weather resistant material that is one of either shredded rubber tires or plastic.~~